

# INTERIM Annual Report

**On the Health of the  
Borough of Newport,  
Isle of Wight,  
for the year 1943**



BY  
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*Medical Officer of Health.*

PRESENTED TO THE CORPORATION  
THROUGH THEIR COMMITTEE,  
JULY, 1944.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
ON THE  
HEALTH OF THE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY  
OF  
NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.

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COUNTY HALL,  
HIGH STREET,  
NEWPORT, I.W.  
*May, 1944.*

*To the Urban Sanitary Authority, the Town Council of  
the Borough of Newport, Isle of Wight.*

MR. MAYOR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the fifth war-time Report on the health of the Borough and the Report is again much curtailed.

Again there is nothing to suggest that the health of the people has suffered after another year of war for although there was towards the end of the year a great deal of sickness, this was mainly due to pandemic influenza. That this did not become the killing disease it did in 1918 seems to point to the fact that there was no physical deterioration of the public health after four years of War.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. S. WALLACE.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SECTION A.

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### GENERAL STATISTICS.

|  |     |     |     |     |     |          |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area (in acres)  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15,530   |
| Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1943) per<br>rate books | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,165    |
| Rateable Value   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £132,174 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £528/7/4 |

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident  
population ... .. 17·8

Still Birth—Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 18·7

Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population 14·6

Death from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and  
childbirth :—

Rate per 1000 total (live and still births) 3·1

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

|   |     |     |      |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| All infants per 1000 live births                          | ... | ... | 41·3 |
| Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births        |     |     | 44·8 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live<br>births | ... | ... | Nil. |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages)                             | ... | ... | 38   |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages)                            | ... | ... | Nil. |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)                     | ... | ... | Nil. |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)              | ... | ... | Nil. |

**BIRTHS.**

The birth rate was 17·8 per 1000 living ; the birth rate for England and Wales being 16·5.

**DEATHS.**

The death rate was 14·6 per 1000 of the estimated resident population, the death rate for England and Wales being 12·1.

**INFANT MORTALITY.**

The Infantile Mortality rate was 41·3 per 1000 registered live births ; the rate for England and Wales generally was 49·0.

**SECTION D.**

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**HOUSING.**

Only 99 houses were inspected under the Housing and Public Health Acts and of these 20 were found unfit.

No statutory notices were issued under the above Acts.



## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

A large proportion of the animals slaughtered in the whole Island are killed at the Government controlled slaughter houses in the Borough and this has added greatly to the work of the Meat and Food Inspector.

## CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

|  | <i>Beasts</i> | <i>Calves</i> | <i>Sheep</i> | <i>Pigs</i>      |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| Number inspected ...   | 1599          | 5342          | 4993         | 2736             |
| All diseases except<br>T.B. whole carcasses<br>condemned ...                       | 7             | 6             | 4            | 35               |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned ...                       | 396           | 25            | 373          | 37               |
| Percentage of number<br>inspected affected<br>with diseases other<br>than T.B. ... | 25·20         | 0·58          | 7·55         | 2·63             |
| Tuberculosis only.<br>Whole carcasses con-<br>demned ...                           | 59            | 2             | —            | 5                |
| Carcases of which<br>some part or organ<br>was condemned. ...                      | 702           | 3             | —            | 310              |
| Percentage of number<br>inspected affected<br>with T.B. ...                        | 47·59         | 0·09          | —            | 11·51            |
|  | <i>Tons.</i>  | <i>Cwt.</i>   | <i>Qrs.</i>  | <i>Lbs.</i>      |
| Total meat condemned   | 31            | 6             | 1            | 13               |
| Other Foodstuffs ...   |               | 19            | 1            | 2 $\frac{3}{4}$  |
| Total ...  | 32            | 5             | 2            | 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ |

## SECTION F.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases showed an increase over the year 1942 of 216, the majority of these being Measles. Scarlet Fever was prevalent throughout the year but was of a mild type, although one case died. This was a child who was not seen by a doctor until acute nephritis supervened.

Nine cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year and of these one died within a few hours of admission to hospital. Of the nine cases two were adults and seven children, of whom three, including the one who died, were not immunised. The four immunised children (not Schick tested) were all of one family and that family, for certain reasons, were at that time all sleeping in one small room on the ground floor. They were cousins of and were infected by, the child who died. One of the adult cases was also a cousin. The other adult was a mother with four small children and although she was ill for some five days before calling her doctor, none of the children, who were all immunised but not Schick tested, took the disease although the bacillus was present in the throats of two of them. All these children were constantly in and out of the mother's bedroom.

The bacillus in all these cases was of the Gravis type and in the two adults the disease was very severe with paralytic complications lasting several weeks. The four immunised children on the other hand made quick and uneventful recoveries and were discharged from hospital after four weeks.

Immunisation continued during the year, mainly among children who had reached their first birthday. On its first birthday, a card calling attention to the facilities for immunisation is sent to each child born in the Borough. After each school entry date an attempt is made to get those children immunised who previously had not been done.

At the end of the year 89% of those children between 5 and 15 years and 60·4% of those under five had been immunised, so that it is not an overstatement to say that practically 85% of all children who had been offered immunisation had accepted.

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis was the same as in 1942 but there were five fewer deaths from that disease.

Influenza became epidemic during the last quarter but was of a mild type and only four deaths were attributable to that disease.

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#### NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES OCCURRING IN SCHOOLS.

|                |     |     |     |     |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Mumps          | ... | ... | ... | 144 |
| Chicken Pox    |     | ... | ... | 35  |
| German Measles |     | ... | ... | 2   |
| Scabies        | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
| Ringworm       | ... | ... | ... | 1   |
|                |     |     |     | 183 |



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

DURING THE YEAR 1943.

| Disease.  | Total Cases<br>Notified. | Cases admitted<br>to Hospital. | Total<br>Deaths. |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Smallpox ...                                      | —                        | —                              | —                |
| Scarlet Fever ...                                 | 57                       | 54                             | 1                |
| Diphtheria ...                                    | 9                        | 9                              | 1                |
| Enteric Fever<br>(including Para-<br>typhoid) ... | —                        | —                              | —                |
| Puerperal Pyrexia                                 | 3                        | 2                              | —                |
| Pneumonia ...                                     | 11                       | 3                              | 3                |
| Ophthalmia<br>Neonatorum ...                      | 2                        | 1                              | —                |
| Other diseases gen-<br>erally notifiable          |                          |                                |                  |
| <i>Erysipelas</i> ...                             | 4                        | 2                              | —                |
| <i>Encephalitis</i><br><i>Lethargica</i> ...      | —                        | —                              | —                |
| <i>Cerebro Spinal</i><br><i>Meningitis</i> ...    | —                        | —                              | —                |
| Whooping Cough                                    | 3                        | —                              | —                |
| Measles ...                                       | 163                      | —                              | —                |
| Dysentery ...                                     | —                        | —                              | —                |
|   | 252                      | 71                             | 5                |

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

| Age.            | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Puerperal Pyrexia. | Pneumonia. | Erysipelas. | Enteric Fever. | Dysentery. | Encephalitis Lethargica. | Poliomyelitis. | Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. | Whooping Cough. | Ophthalmia Neonatorum | Measles. |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Under 1         | —              | —           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | 2                     | 4        |
| 1 and under 2   | 2              | 1           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | 2               | —                     | 10       |
| 2   "   "   3   | 1              | 1           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | 1               | —                     | 12       |
| 3   "   "   4   | 2              | 2           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | 17       |
| 4   "   "   5   | 9              | —           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | 24       |
| 5   "   "   10  | 27             | 3           | —                  | 2          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | 89       |
| 10   "   "   15 | 13             | —           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | 6        |
| 15   "   "   20 | 1              | 1           | —                  | —          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | 1        |
| 20   "   "   35 | 1              | 1           | 3                  | 3          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | —        |
| 35   "   "   45 | 1              | —           | —                  | 2          | 4           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | —        |
| 45   "   "   65 | —              | —           | —                  | 2          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | —        |
| 65 and over     | —              | —           | —                  | 2          | —           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | —               | —                     | —        |
|                 | 57             | 9           | 3                  | 11         | 4           | —              | —          | —                        | —              | —                          | 3               | 2                     | 163      |

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

| CASES.    |          |             | Vision<br>un-<br>impaired. | Vision<br>impaired. | Total<br>Blindness. | Death. |
|-----------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Notified. | Treated. |             |                            |                     |                     |        |
|           | At home  | In hospital |                            |                     |                     |        |
| 2         | 1        | 1           | 2                          | —                   | —                   | —      |

**TUBERCULOSIS, 1943.**

| AGE PERIODS.   | NEW CASES. |           |    |               |    | DEATHS. |           |    |               |    |
|----------------|------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|---------|-----------|----|---------------|----|
|                | Totals     | Pulmonary |    | Non-Pulmonary |    | Totals  | Pulmonary |    | Non-Pulmonary |    |
|                |            | M.        | F. | M.            | F. |         | M.        | F. | M.            | F. |
| 0 and under 1  | —          | —         | —  | —             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 1     „     5  | —          | —         | —  | —             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 5     „     10 | —          | —         | —  | —             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 10   „     15  | 3          | —         | —  | 3             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 15   „     20  | 1          | 1         | —  | —             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 20   „     25  | 3          | 2         | 1  | —             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 25   „     35  | 10         | 6         | 4  | —             | —  | —       | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 35   „     45  | 7          | 3         | 4  | —             | —  | 3       | 2         | —  | —             | 1  |
| 45   „     55  | 3          | 2         | 1  | —             | —  | 3       | —         | 3  | —             | —  |
| 55   „     65  | 3          | 1         | 2  | —             | —  | 1       | 1         | —  | —             | —  |
| 65 and over    | —          | —         | —  | —             | —  | 1       | —         | 1  | —             | —  |
| Totals         | 30†        | 15        | 12 | 3             | —  | 8*      | 3         | 4  | —             | 1  |

\*Included in this total are two patients who died from other causes.

†In this total are included two patients who had left the Island and returned this year.

